

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/695,914

Examiner

Allen C. Ho

Applicant(s)

TASHIRO ET AL.

Art Unit

2882

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 30 January 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claim 1 is allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fails to disclose a method of manufacturing a radiation imaging apparatus, the radiation imaging apparatus comprising a plurality of imaging elements each comprising a plurality of pixels and an external terminal, wherein a lead constituting the external terminal extends to the side opposite to a light receiving surface of the imaging element through a space between adjacent imaging elements, the method comprising the steps of: forming a first planarization layer which covers the external terminal on the light receiving surface, forming a second planarization layer on the first planarization layer, and forming a scintillator on the second planarization layer as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 30 January 2006 with respect to the drawings have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of the drawings has been withdrawn.

4. Applicant's arguments filed 30 January 2006 with respect to claim 1 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, has been withdrawn.

5. Applicant's arguments filed 30 January 2006 with respect to claim 1 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) has been withdrawn.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "forming a scintillator on said second planarization layer". It is determined that the prior application JP 2001-132349 satisfies the enablement and written description requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, with respect to the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Kajiwara *et al.* has been withdrawn.

6. Applicant's arguments filed 30 January 2006 with respect to claim 1 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claim 1 under obviousness-type double patenting has been withdrawn.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- (1) Hamamoto *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 6,800,836 B2) disclosed an image pickup device.
- (2) Tashiro *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 6,717,151 B2) disclosed an image pickup apparatus.

(3) Okumura *et al.* (U. S. Patent No. 6,658,082 B2) disclosed a radiation detector.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen C. Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-2491. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward J. Glick can be reached at (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Allen C. Ho
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2882

18 February 2006